

Name _____

Date _____

Learning to Multiply

Multiplying is really the same thing as adding a number to itself a certain number of times. Multiplication makes it easier to solve some kinds of problems.

For example, supposed you and three of your classmates are working on a project together. Each of you is allowed to take 3 books out of the library. How many books can the whole group take out of the library?

You could add 3 four times: $3 + 3 + 3 + 3 = 12$

Your group can take 12 books out of the library.

Another way to solve the problem is to multiply:

Three people can take out four books each. That is 3 (books) 4 (times) or

$$3 \times 4 = 12$$

Once you learn basic multiplication facts (“times tables”), you will be able to solve these problems easily.

Here is another problem that uses multiplication.

Suppose there are six people in your family (including you). At Christmas time, you decide to buy each person a new winter scarf. You find a place that sells scarves for \$9 each. How much will it cost to buy a scarf for each member of your family?

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Learning to Multiply (cont'd)

There are 5 people to buy for, and the gift will cost \$9 for each person. You could add \$9 together five times, but multiplication is easier.

$$5 \times 9 = 45$$

It will cost you \$45 to buy a scarf for each member of your family.

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Learning to Multiply Problems Answer

1. $3 \times 3 = 9$

Mr. Samson spends 9 dollars on soft pretzels.

2. $2 \times 4 = 8$

Our mom has to buy 8 spiral notebooks.

3. $3 \times 6 = 18$

Jenna and her mom need to buy 18 balloons.

4. $3 \times 7 = 21$

Michael runs 21 miles each week.

5. $6 \times 4 = 24$

24 campers can go canoeing at one time.

6. $5 \times 5 = 25$

We spend 25 hours at school in a week with no half days or days off.